

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 663
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
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AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PBOR IS EG
SUBJ: RETURN TO RAFAH APPROACHES; OTHER SETTLEMENT DETAILS

REFS: (A) TEL AVIV 476, (B) TEL AVIV 330 (NOTAL)

1. EMBOFF MADE RETURN VISIT TO RAFAH APPROACHES JANUARY
15 TO REVIEW SETTLEMENT-RELATED ACTIVITIES.

(A) TWO BULLDOZERS WERE LEVELING SAND DUNES AT SITE JUST
NORTH OF COASTAL ROAD ABOUT MILE WEST OF HARUVIT.

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(B) ONE BULLDOZER WAS LEVELING SAND DUNES AT SITE ABOUT
HALF MILE NORTH OF COASTAL ROAD, HALF MILE EAST OF
HARUVIT.

(C) TWO BULLDOZERS AND THREE DUMP TRUCKS WERE LEVELING
SITE ALONG COAST TWO MILES EAST OF HARUVIT. ACCESS
ROADS TO THIS AND ABOVE MENTIONED SITE HARDTOP BUT NOT NEW.

(D) ACTIVITY AT KATIF B AND KATIF C SITE JUST WEST OF NEZER HAZANI APPEARED MINIMAL. EMBOFF TOLD TO LEAVE SITE BY IDF LCOL. WHEN ASKED IF THIS WAS BECAUSE SITE WAS IN MILITARY ZONE, OFFICER SAID NO BUT NONETHELESS REQUESTED EMBOFF TO LEAVE. UPON DEPARTING, EMBOFF PROCEEDED ON ROAD LEADING TOWARDS COAST WHERE HE LOCATED TWO BULLDOZERS LEVELING SAND DUNES ONE MILE AWAY.

(E) SITE OF PRIEL IS TWO MILES SOUTH EAST OF AVSHALOM JUNCTION (YAMIT-KEREM SHALOM ROAD) ON WEST SIDE OF ROAD. ONLY ONE BULLDOZER ON SITE, BUT LARGE SQUARE MILE AREA ALREADY LEVELED. FOUNDATIONS FOR HOUSES ALREADY BEING PUT IN.

2. EMBOFF DISCUSSED HIS OBSERVATIONS WITH SHIMON RAVID, DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF JA/WZO SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT. RAVID DID NOT DISAGREE WITH EMBOFF OPINION THAT SITES EAST AND WEST OF HARUVIT WERE INTENDED FOR NEW SETTLEMENTS, AND OTHER SITE EAST OF HARUVIT AN EXTENSION OF EXISTING SETTLEMENT. RAVID CLAIMS THAT GROUND WORK BEING DONE AT ABU AWEIGLIA INTENDED TO ENLARGE AGRICULTURAL LANDS OF HARUVIT.

3. REGARDING FOUR SETTLEMENTS PLANNED FOR WEST BANK, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RAVID SAID, THEY WOULD BE KARNEI SHOMRON, HARIS, TAPUAH, AND SILT A ZAHAR. HE CONFIRMED COMMENT BY URI BAR ON IN REFTEL A THAT SITE FOR LAST NAMED SETTLEMENT STILL NOT DETERMINED. HOWEVER, HE STATED THAT SHILO IS DEFINITELY A DIFFERENT SITE FROM KARNEI SHOMRON. SHILO IS CURRENTLY TERMED AN "ARCHAEOLOGICAL CAMP" BY GOI, BUT RAVID NOTED THAT SEVERAL GUSH EMUNIM SETTLERS HAVE RECENTLY MOVED THEIR TRAILERS (AS WELL AS THEMSELVES) TO THE SITE. THE REMAINDER OF THE NUCLEUS FOR SHILO SETTLEMENT IS STILL AT OFRA.

4. JERUSALEM POST REPORTS THAT HOUSING MINISTRY HAS BEGUN CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSING UNITS FOR SETTLEMENT NAMED ORTAL, ON MOUNT SHIFON, ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS. ORTAL WILL BE AFFILIATED WITH THE KIBBUTZ MEUHAD FEDERATION. RAVID STATED THAT THIS SETTLEMENT LOCATED 5 KM SOUTHEAST OF EIN ZIVAN.

5. NAHAL HOLIT (IN RAFAH APPROACHES) BECAME CIVILIANIZED ON JAN. 12 AS A KIBBUTZ BELONGING TO THE IHUD FEDERATION. TWENTY HOUSING UNITS EXIST AT SITE, AND RESIDENTS WILL ENGAGE IN GLASSHOUSE AGRICULTURE.

6. MAARIV REPORTED ON JAN. 15 THAT HOUSING MINISTRY HAS
BEGUN PREPARATIONS EAST OF ELON MOREH SETTLEMENT (ON WEST
BANK) FOR SIXTY HOUSING UNITS. LEWIS

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